

MaineCare Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2021
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Via Zoom

I. CALL TO ORDER

Kathy Kilrain Del Rio called to order the regular meeting of the MaineCare Advisory Committee at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 7th.

II. ROLL CALL

Kathy Kilrain del Rio conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

Kathy Kilrain del Rio; Laurie Belden; Esther Bullard; Rachel Collamore; Laura Cordes; Cathy Dionne; Leo Delicata; Gia Drew; Al Durgin; Rachel Dyer; Mark Eves; Kate Ende; Suzanne Farley; Michael Hallundbaek; Richard Hayward; Jillian Jolicoeur; Vickie McCarty; Beth Pearce; Atlee Reilly; Judy Seals; Jeff Tiner; Susan White, and David Winslow

Department: Trista Collins; Sarah Grant; Fran Jensen; Jenny Patterson; Michelle Probert, and Molly Slotznick

Guests: Sharlene Adams; Julie Brennan; Elizabeth Cameron; Becca Matusovich; and Jessie Wright

III. NEW BUSINESS

a.) DHHS Updates With Michelle Probert

- Michelle noted the Department has received approval from CMS for the spending plan for the retention and recruitment bonuses. The first round of payments are targeted for January.
- Laura Cordes asked if there a way to know that what providers receive in January is truly 25% of the amount providers will be receiving in total. Michelle noted she will take the question back and see what she can find out.
- On the Covid front, the Department recognizes the Delta variant surge is impacting healthcare providers.
- Sarah Grant will be leaving MaineCare to serve as the Grants and Development Director for the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence.
- Molly Slotznick noted the transportation program for Mainers to receive free rides to get vaccinated will be ending December 31st.

b) Estate Recovery Update

- The new Estate Recovery Rule went into effect on an emergency basis on November 24th.
- The Department is working on a FAQ to put out with more detailed information.

c) Rate Systems Updates With Laura

- Laura asked if there might be an opportunity for the Department to educate providers about what rate studies look like, and how providers are engaged. Michelle noted she is working with contract management around the procurement of rate studies, and once we have a firmer idea of when we will be able to kick off those studies the Department will hold an orientation regarding what those studies will look like.

d) Rulemaking/Waivers/SPA Updates With Jenny Patterson

- Jenny noted the permanent rule on Estate Recovery is expected to be proposed soon.
- Kathy asked about whether the rule regarding extended postpartum coverage will be coming out soon. Esther noted that is an OFI rule, and there is a bit more work to do on the fiscal but the language is drafted.

e) Communications Update With Sarah Grant

- The MaineCare communications team is working on an estate recovery FAQ 1 pager, and will be working with the MAC to help get the word out when the document is ready for distribution.
- The e-messaging system is being redesigned so communications can be distributed more specifically to the providers to whom the info directly pertains to. Sarah suggested that perhaps Shannon Martin could attend the January MAC meeting to walk the group through the upcoming changes

f) School Based Services Presentation With Jenny Patterson and Trista Collins

- The Department has been working with DOE to look at the legislation pertaining to school based services and to understand the next steps in the rulemaking.
- DOE was directed to study the creation of a centralized billing system, and to review OMS services currently reimbursed through MaineCare and opportunities for additional reimbursement.
- The goal is to have the school based services rule in effect for the summer of 2023.

g.) **Transportation Challenges**

- The concern was raised that there are instances where there are not enough drivers, which results in people missing their appointments and creates a no show issue for providers. Does the Department have any thoughts about how the issue can be handled?
- Jillian noted that KVCAP in Waterville has issues with the theft of catalytic converters from their buses, leading to missed rides. If we are acknowledging this is a system issue and not their patients fault, can there be some sort of reprieve so members aren't losing their services when there is a transportation service provider shortage?
- Jillian would like an update on the provider line re: when to call and high volume hours to stay away from.
- Molly noted if providers call the main number when you're going through the script press 2 and there is a an OFI provider line specific to providers. The line is open 9 to 4.

h.) **Wrap Up**

- The next MAC meeting will be January 4th at 10:00 a.m.

i.) **Items From Guests.**

None

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Kathy Kilrain Del Rio adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Lisa Weaver